

It is my feeling this RM does nothing, but maintain status quo. The author(s) have totally neglected the message of WRC-2003 that CW should no longer hold a "special" place in the amateur radio sphere of operation.

Knowledge of CW has not and does not insure an operator will know and exercise good circuit discipline. What does insure proper circuit discipline is good example from those on the net and enforcement of standards.

The proposal presented by The ARRL truly is the best for the Amateur Radio Service in the 21st Century. The impact of The ARRL proposal is minimal on both the commission and the ARS.

The one time upgrading of "Technicians" to "General" will in the long run be most beneficial to the citizens of the country and the ARS. The individuals against this move are basing their comments on suppositions and stereotyping and not fact.

It is respectfully requested this RM be denied in its entirety and The ARRL's recommendation be given prompt action.